

**Department of Homeland Security  
Information Analysis and Infrastructure  
Protection  
Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report  
for 21 April 2003**

Current Nationwide  
Threat Level is



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**Daily Overview**

- The New York Times reports eleven emergency public-alert sirens for the Indian Point nuclear power plant lost their connection to the local utility for more than two hours on Thursday as the utility replaced a wooden pole that had snapped in the wind the night before. (See item [1](#))
- The New York Times reports the Nuclear Regulatory Commission said on Saturday that a nuclear reactor in Texas is leaking cooling water from the bottom of its giant reactor vessel, a development that experts view with concern because they have never seen it before. (See item [2](#))
- The Age (Australia) reports that China, under fire at home and abroad for failing to disclose the extent of its Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome infections, has sharply raised its number of cases to 1807 and revealed there are hundreds of suspected new infections in Beijing. (See item [13](#))
- CNET News.com reports a software slipup in Microsoft's latest update to Office 2000 results in the application repeatedly asking some customers to register the program, a glitch that apparently affects only Office 2000 users who don't have administrative rights on their computer. (See item [27](#))

**DHS/IAIP Update *Fast Jump***

**Production Industries:** [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

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**Energy Sector**

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: Elevated, Cyber: Elevated**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://esisac.com>]

1. *April 19, New York Times* — **A utility briefly cuts power to some Indian Point sirens. Eleven emergency public-alert sirens for the Indian Point nuclear power plant lost their connection to the local utility for more than two hours on Thursday as the utility replaced a wooden pole that had snapped in the wind the night before, officials said yesterday.** The power cutoff was planned so the repair could be made, the utility said. The sirens also had backup power from batteries, said Jim Steets, a spokesman for Entergy, which owns the plant. **But Steets said the power company, Orange and Rockland Utilities, failed to notify Entergy ahead of time, and some local officials expressed concern about the dependability of the alarms, which are intended to alert the public to any trouble at the nuclear power plant.** There are 153 alarms in the four counties surrounding Indian Point, which lies in Buchanan, NY, just south of Peekskill. The power cutoff affected the electric motors in 9 of 16 alarms in Orange County and 2 of 50 in Rockland. **If there had been an emergency at Indian Point while Orange and Rockland Utilities was replacing the pole, police and fire vehicles would have gone into neighborhoods left without alarms, blaring notification from loudspeakers. Automatic phone calls would also have gone out to the public through pre-set lists,** said Susan Meyer, a spokeswoman for the Rockland County's Indian Point team. Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/04/19/nyregion/19NUKE.html>
2. *April 19, New York Times* — **Texas reactor vessel is leaking water. A nuclear reactor in Texas is leaking cooling water from the bottom of its giant reactor vessel, a development that experts view with concern because they have never seen it before, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission said today.** Technicians at the South Texas Nuclear Project, 90 miles southwest of Houston near Wadsworth, have found residues that indicate that cooling water leaked from the vessel through two penetrations where instruments are inserted into the core, according to the plant operator. **Operators at all 103 commercial nuclear reactors have been giving closer attention to their reactor vessels since the discovery last year of extensive leaks in the vessel head at the Davis-Besse plant in Oak Harbor, Ohio, near Toledo.** The Texas plant, South Texas 1, shows much smaller signs of leaking than the Ohio plant. In both cases, technicians found deposits of boron, a chemical added to the water to control the nuclear reaction, which remains after the water evaporates. At Davis-Besse, technicians cleaned out boron with shovels. In Texas, technicians found an amount about half the volume of an aspirin tablet, said Ed Halpin, the plant general manager. **The South Texas leak is unexpected and, so far, unexplained.** "This is the first time it's been seen, either here or abroad," said Victor Dricks, a spokesman for the regulatory commission. Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/04/19/national/19NUKE.htm>
3. *April 18, New York Times* — **Russia approves private pipe to carry oil bound for U.S. Dropping its previous opposition, the Russian government gave a green light today to plans for a privately owned oil pipeline to Murmansk that would carry oil bound for the United States.** Prime Minister Mikhail Kasyanov told his government to begin preparing a feasibility study for the \$4.5 billion project, which also involves building a new loading terminal at Murmansk, a port on the Barents Sea formerly reserved largely for military use. The energy minister, Igor Yusufov, said flatly that the government would not oppose full private ownership of the pipeline, an aspect that officials had balked at just a few months ago. **Russia is already the world's second-largest oil exporter, after Saudi Arabia, and its output has grown steadily in recent years. But it has hit a ceiling in its capacity to export its oil.** Approximately 29 million barrels of oil have accumulated in storage around Russia since the

beginning of 2003 because of bottlenecks in the existing system. With crude output expected to grow another 40 percent or more by 2012, Russia's oil companies say that new export routes are urgently needed. Five of the largest companies, Lukoil, Yukos, Tyumen Oil, Surgut and Sibneft, formed a consortium to build the Murmansk project. **Oil companies here are also pushing another pipeline project, one that would stretch from Angarsk in Siberia to the Chinese city of Daqing.**

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/04/18/business/worldbusiness/18R UBL.html>

4. *April 18, Los Angeles Times* — **Saudis tighten oil security. War or no war, the industry is an obvious and vulnerable terrorist target, experts warn.** To enter the vast complex, in Ras Tanura, of oil pipelines, storage tanks and processing plants on the edge of the Persian Gulf, employees must pass through a gate with 12 armed guards, then approach a second one where 18 guards and a bomb-sniffing dog stand at the ready. They surrender their passports for coded ID cards that they swipe through an electronic reader, then enter PIN numbers. Once inside, they are protected by an anti-aircraft missile battery and two layers of barbed-wire-topped fencing. A strand of wire capable of detecting the slightest movement encircles the perimeter, and video cameras stand sentinel every few feet, silently surveying the vast hot sweep of sand and sea for intruders. **Though the U.S.-led war in Iraq is winding down, experts say there will be a high risk of terrorist attacks on American interests in the Persian Gulf for months or even years to come. The oil industry -- which Osama bin Laden has identified as the "umbilical cord" of the Western "colonizers" -- remains the most obvious potential target.** Three-fourths of Saudi Arabia's oil exports flow onto tankers from Ras Tanura and the adjacent terminal at Juaymah. **A major, well-coordinated terrorist attack here or at the huge oil processing center at Abqaiq not far away, counterterrorism experts say, could cut Saudi oil exports in half** -- throwing a wrench into the global economy.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/la-war-oil18apr18003423.1.7852868.story?coll=la%2Dheadlines%2Dworld>

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## **Chemical Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

5. *April 18, Government Computer News* — **Gen. Blum heads National Guard Bureau.** Army Lt. Gen. H. Steven Blum was confirmed last week as the new chief of the National Guard Bureau. Since August, Blum has been chief of staff for both the Northern Command and the North American Aerospace Defense Command at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. In his new post, Blum succeeds Lt. Gen. Russell Davis, who retired last summer. Maj. Gen. Raymond Rees has been acting chief since then, officials said. **As National Guard chief, Blum is responsible for developing and coordinating policies, programs and plans affecting Army and Air National Guard personnel. He will be the principal adviser to the secretary and chiefs of staff of the Army and Air Force on all Guard issues.**

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Transportation Sector**

6. *April 18, Washington Post* — **Pilots prepare to arm and defend; after rugged training, new era could begin Sunday. In the new uncertain skies, airline passengers never know whether a bank executive or an undercover armed federal marshal is seated next to them. Travelers also have grown accustomed to federal security screeners rummaging through their luggage. In an added mystery, pilots will not reveal to passengers whether they are armed.** Not even the pilots' employers, the airlines, know if a pilot is in the training program. Once the pilot passes the course and is armed, he or she must notify the airline within 24 hours of flying. First, the volunteers must pass a battery of tests, including a thorough background check, a psychological evaluation, and classroom exams on liability and legal rules. The pilots also must graduate from precision firearms training by the end of the week. Just days into the program, two pilots dropped out, for reasons the federal government won't discuss. **Pilots have lobbied aggressively for the program, insisting it was their duty to protect the cockpit with a lethal weapon. Congress overwhelming passed a bill last fall that gave any airline pilot the option to train and become an armed "federal flight deck officer."**

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A48329-2003Apr 17.html>

7. *April 17, Government Executive Magazine* — **Transportation official seeks business advice on security. The head of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) on Thursday called on businesses to help develop a national security plan for transportation systems.** "This is an all-hands evolution," TSA Administrator James Loy told a conference on network-centric operations. "We are sort of in this together." The plan will be a "collection point" for the six different transportation sectors, Loy said, adding that TSA is examining its current and future functions, core competencies and who they need to help them get those, including the information technology industry. The future IT capabilities of the department "will rival any you see in government today," he said. **Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge also has asked TSA to prepare a national response plan. It will differ from others by encompassing everything from preventive measures to consequence management,** Loy said. TSA will review existing response-related authorities, eliminate redundancies and close gaps, then test the plan against every imaginable contingency, he said.

Source: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0403/041703td1.htm>

8. *April 17, CNN* — **Businesses cut travel due to SARS.** Businesses continue to ban travel to Asia because of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) illness. **Sixty-one percent are banning travel as of April 16, up from 58 percent last week, according to a survey by the Business Travel Coalition.** The group said that, "at least for now, corporate travel policy

changes have stabilized" in terms of banning travel to Asia. The biggest increase in banned travel occurred between April 1, when 27 percent of businesses were banning travel to Asia, and April 7, when 58 percent did so. **Businesses are instead relying on technology to connect with Asia. Forty-three percent are using Web conferencing, 65 percent are using teleconferencing, and 28 percent Web casting.** The Business Travel Coalition said an increasing number of companies are taking extra precautions with employees returning from Asia. **Twenty-four percent are requiring workers returning from SARS-afflicted countries to work from home for a period of time before rejoining the workforce, while 18 percent require them to obtain a medical bill of health before returning to work.**

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2003/TRAVEL/04/17/sars.business.travel/index.html>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

9. *April 18, Star-Ledger* — **New boat to boost port surveillance.** The New Jersey State Police will receive \$750,000 in federal funds to purchase a patrol boat with advanced surveillance equipment that will assist in securing ports and waterways, officials said **Thursday**. The State Police Marine Unit has four stations and five substations. **The agency is seeking about \$6 million from the U.S. Transportation Security Administration for five more similar boats.** "The large patrol boats in our existing fleet are old and outdated," Acting State Police Superintendent Joseph "Rick" Fuentes said. "They are not suited for the 24 hour patrols that we have found necessary to protect our ports and critical waterways. Besides offering state-of-the-art surveillance technology, the new boat will be sturdier, faster and more reliable."

Source: <http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/jersey/index.ssf?/base/news-3/1050647947246220.xml>

10. *April 18, Los Angeles Times* — **U.S. Coast Guard steers a new course.** The U.S. Coast Guard cutter Halibut's crew is sizing up boats in the waters off Los Angeles International Airport in response to a request from federal officials, who asked the Coast Guard to increase patrols nearby earlier this year. **The airport's location makes it particularly vulnerable to shoulder-fired missile attacks launched by terrorists from tiny skiffs or nearby oil platforms, officials say.** Airliners make prime targets for portable shoulder-fired missiles because an accelerating aircraft's engines give off a "heat signature" that a missile's guidance system could lock onto, and because takeoff schedules are more predictable than landing times, security experts say. The 10 Coast Guardsmen aboard the year-and-a-half-old Halibut work directly under departing aircraft several times a day as they ply the waters to the west of LAX's four runways.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-missile18apr18.1.4581763.story?coll=la%2Dheadlines%2Dcalifornia>

11. *April 16, Federal Computer Week* — **Operation Safe Commerce advancing.** The U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) is moving forward with a program to test technologies that could help ensure goods reach their destinations safely. **The goal of Operation Safe Commerce is to protect the global supply chain, weeding out vulnerabilities that crop up from packaging to delivery. Federal, state, and local**

**governments, along with industry partners are collaborating on the security initiative.** In the program's first phase, a container fitted with onboard tracking, sensors and door seals, was monitored as it traveled from Eastern Europe to New Hampshire. **In this second stage, TSA will take a wider view, distributing about \$28 million in grants to seaports in the Los Angeles/Long Beach, CA; Seattle/Tacoma, WA; and New York/New Jersey regions, the nation's three largest load centers.**

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2003/0414/web-tsa-04-16-03.a.sp>

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## **Agriculture Sector**

12. *April 18, Casper Star Tribune* — **Feds send CWD aid.** The federal government is pitching in \$4 million to help key states in their efforts to combat chronic wasting disease (CWD). State officials and researchers in Montana and Wyoming say the money will enhance efforts to monitor and manage deer and elk with the neurological disease. "We've got a lot of gaps in our data and it is important to fill them in," University of Wyoming professor of veterinary sciences Beth Williams said. "Having this money will help out a lot." **As a state that has already found cases of the disease in free-ranging deer and elk, Wyoming will receive \$93,750 for surveillance and \$125,000 for management. Seven other states, including Colorado, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Utah, have reported cases in free-ranging populations and will receive the same amount.** These states are defined as Tier One by the Agriculture Department. Montana and other Tier Two states that are either adjacent to Tier One states or have had occurrences of the disease on game farms will receive a smaller portion of the pot. They will receive \$71,429 for surveillance and an additional \$71,249 for management. All other states are defined as Tier Three states and will receive \$44,642 for surveillance and an additional \$44,642 for management.

Source: <http://www.casperstartribune.net/articles/2003/04/18/news/wyoming/d5a2274afd7b4f50e54ad964bf0b90a3.txt>

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## **Food Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Water Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Public Health Sector**

13. *April 21, The Age (Australia)* — **China raises number of SARS cases. China, under fire at**



home and abroad for failing to disclose the extent of its Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) infections, sharply raised its number of cases yesterday from 1512 to 1807 and revealed there were hundreds of suspected new infections in Beijing. At least 18 people have died from the virus in the capital and it was revealed there were an additional 402 suspected cases in the city. Before the announcement, authorities had admitted to just 44 cases in Beijing and four fatalities. The revised totals were announced by China's Vice-Minister for Health, Gao Qiang. World Health Organisation experts had warned that China's figures were not to be trusted. Gao said 79 people had died of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome nationwide in China, up from the previously reported 67, since the virus emerged in the southern province of Guangdong in November. It leapt to Hong Kong in late February and spread around the world. **China acknowledged the urgency of the situation yesterday by cancelling the week-long May Day holidays, due to start on May 1 and run to May 7, to prevent the spread of SARS, disrupting the travel plans of millions of people.** The number of confirmed cases in Singapore has risen to 177, the fourth highest in the world. Fourteen people have died in Singapore and another two deaths are suspected SARS cases. More than 200 people have died worldwide.

Source: <http://www.theage.com.au/articles/2003/04/20/1050777165007.html>

14. *April 18, Ravalli Republic* — **RML scientist makes breakthrough with research on Q fever.**

The genetic blueprint of an important disease-causing microbe has been deciphered and analyzed in a collaboration with scientists at Rocky Mountain Laboratories in Wyoming. The labs' Robert Heinzen worked on the breakthrough with scientists at the Institute of Genomic Research in Rockville, MD. **Basically the scientists unveiled the genetic blueprint for a bacteria that causes Q fever, a flu-like illness in humans. The information opens a treasure trove of information that will allow scientists to develop a much higher resolution picture of the microbe's biology and its ability to cause disease, according to John Heidelberg, who headed the project supported by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.** The microbe, named *Coxiella burnetii*, is a potential agent of bioterrorism. Severe cases of Q fever are fatal. **The bug is of concern as a potential bioterrorist threat because early diagnosis of the disease is difficult and the microbe is a hardy organism that can be aerosolized.** "The *Coxiella* genome sequence is a major advance," Heinzen said. "Not only will it allow us to more easily study genes that may be involved in causing disease, it also should reveal targets for improved diagnostics and potential vaccine candidates."

Source: <http://www.montanaforum.com/rednews/2003/04/17/build/health/qfever.php?nnn=4>

15. *April 18, Seattle Post-Intelligencer* — **A strategy to combat West Nile.** The Seattle, Washington health department announced Thursday its strategy for keeping the insects in check, and state Department of Health officials have applied for a statewide insecticide permit to kill mosquito larvae. **Local officials are emphasizing monitoring for West Nile virus and public education to eliminate standing water where mosquitoes can breed. A pesticide that kills mosquitoes in their aquatic larval stage would be used as a last resort.** The pesticide comes in pellets or briquettes that dissolve in water. It's called *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis*, or Bti, and is a naturally occurring bacteria found in soil. **Last year, two birds and two horses in this state were found infected with the virus. None has been discovered this year, although public health officials expect to see the first human cases here this summer.**

Source: [http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/118174\\_westnile18.html](http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/118174_westnile18.html)

16. *April 18, United Press International* — **FDA seeks to keep SARS out of blood supply.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued a new guidance Thursday that calls for people potentially infected with Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) to be deferred in donating blood to prevent the disease from being transmitted via blood transfusions. "FDA is taking this interim measure to assure the safety of the blood supply while more is learned about the disease," the agency said in a written statement. The agency noted: "At this time, it is unknown whether SARS can be transmitted through blood." Although there have been no cases of people contracting SARS via tainted blood, genes of the virus that causes the illness have been detected in the blood of patients so it is theoretically possible that it could be transmitted in blood, FDA said. **Under the new guidance, people who contracted SARS would be deferred in donating blood until 28 days after their symptoms had resolved. People who have recently traveled to certain Asian regions where SARS is prevalent also would be barred from donating blood for 14 days after their return to the United States.**

Source: <http://www.upi.com/view.cfm?StoryID=20030418-115230-5314r>

17. *April 18, Washington Post* — **In Hong Kong apartment tower, SARS spread through plumbing.** The Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) virus that infected hundreds of people in a 33-story Hong Kong apartment tower probably spread in part by traveling through bathroom drainpipes, officials said Thursday in what would be a disturbing new confirmation of the microbe's versatility. The possible explanation for what has been one of the most baffling and worrisome outbreaks in the epidemic indicates that the virus can be transmitted in ways other than close person-to-person contact. "The possibility that the virus could by aerosol move through a vertical pipe through other pipes into the air and affect so many people, that's not comforting," said Klaus Stohr, who is leading the World Health Organization's scientific efforts against SARS. **Stohr stressed, however, that even if the virus can spread through plumbing or in other ways, the pattern of the epidemic so far indicates that would occur only rarely.**

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A47841-2003Apr 17.html>

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## **Government Sector**

18. *April 18, Associated Press* — **FBI scans Iraqi documents for threats.** The cache of documents recovered by the U.S. military in Iraq could provide important leads in the international war on terrorism, FBI Director Robert Mueller says. **There are 25 FBI agents, along with other U.S. counterterrorism officials, poring over the documents to find any links to terrorists, potential terror plots, evidence of weapons of mass destruction and activities of Iraqi intelligence agents.** "The FBI will continue to be vigilant in its counterterrorism efforts, both here and abroad," Mueller told reporters Thursday. "We are going through all Iraq documents as soon as we receive them, with CIA and others, that may help us to prevent another attack." Mueller and Attorney General John Ashcroft also said at a news conference Thursday that the FBI had completed the questioning of nearly 10,000 Iraqis living in the United States. "Cooperation of the Iraqi-American people was essential to secure and safeguard our nation during this critical time," Ashcroft said. **Neither man mentioned any credible terrorist plots during the Iraqi war, something that had been**



a major concern before the conflict. Still, Ashcroft said, "We know that a significant terrorist threat persists, and we will persist in our efforts" to thwart it.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A50067-2003Apr 18.html>

19. *April 18, Financial Times* — **Lack of time and cash threatens U.S. visa plan.** The creation of a comprehensive system to track all foreigners who enter and leave the United States cannot be done at a reasonable cost in the time mandated by Congress, according to the top US border security official. **Asa Hutchinson, undersecretary of homeland security for border and transport security, said the department's initial estimates for the scheme to deter would-be terrorists showed the costs would be far too high.** "They're too high and they're not do-able in the time frame Congress has given us," Hutchinson said in an interview. "We're reassessing those cost estimates." The price tag is being compiled as part of a forthcoming report to Congress on the implementation of the so-called entry-exit system, the most ambitious of a series of measures required by Congress to try to prevent terrorists entering the country.

Source: <http://news.ft.com/servlet/ContentServer?pagename=FT.com/StoryFT/FullStory48313873933>

20. *April 17, National Post* — **Canada to be exempt from security tactic; move raises hopes for rapprochement.** The Bush administration has agreed to exempt Canadian citizens from homeland security measures that will require visitors to register with American border officials when entering and leaving the United States, senior U.S. officials say. **Paul Cellucci, the U.S. ambassador to Canada, said on Wednesday Washington is nearing a deal with the Chrétien government that would waive a requirement for Canadians to be part of the plan to track the entry and exit of all visitors to the United States. Tom Ridge, the U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security, and John Manley, the Deputy Prime Minister, are putting the final touches on the agreement, Cellucci told the National Post.** "Secretary Ridge and Minister Manley and their teams did a lot of work on entry-exit. We are still looking at the legal questions, but it appears that U.S. and Canadian citizens will be exempted from it," Cellucci said.

Source: <http://canada.com/national/story.asp?id=A2C58370-DAF4-4B47-8CDE-67B0AE3ADE2C>

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

21. *April 18, University of Massachusetts at Amherst* — **New center to harness homeland security expertise.** With the federal government poised to spend billions on homeland security, campus officials are laying the groundwork for a planned Center for Emergency Preparedness devoted to protection, detection and response programs for a range of disaster scenarios on the state, regional and national levels. **The interdisciplinary center, which will be formally announced April 30, will provide an umbrella organization for faculty from various schools and colleges to collaborate on projects capable of attracting federal support, according to interim Vice Chancellor for Research Fred Byron. Planning for the center began last fall, he said, after the Bush administration detailed plans to pump billions into training and research programs through the new Department of Homeland Security**

(DHS). Byron said the emerging importance of homeland security as a national priority mirrors the focus brought to research by the space program in the 1960s.

Source: [http://www.umass.edu/chronicle/archives/03/04-18/security\\_center.html](http://www.umass.edu/chronicle/archives/03/04-18/security_center.html)

22. *April 17, U.S. Department of Homeland Security* — **Department of Homeland Security announces \$165 Million in grants to states for all hazards emergency and terrorism preparedness.** The Department of Homeland Security's Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate, known as FEMA, has provided \$165 million in grants to help state and local governments better prepare to respond to all hazards preparedness activities and emergency management. These funds are a result of a significant increase in funding for the Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG) program from the FY '03 budget. **The EMPG program provide states the flexibility to allocate funds according to risk vulnerabilities and to address the most urgent state and local needs in all hazard mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.** "The \$165 million to state and locals for all hazards preparedness represents a 40 percent increase from FY '02 EMPG funding," said Michael D. Brown, Under Secretary for Emergency Preparedness and Response. "These grants are further evidence of this administration's commitment to state and local governments for all hazards emergency preparedness efforts."

Source: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=564>

23. *April 17, Ascribe Newswire* — **Survey shows few Americans making preparations in case of terrorist attack despite Department of Homeland Security warnings, recommendations.** A new study by the Harvard School of Public Health Project on the Public and Biological Security finds that **although most Americans (73 percent) knew that the nation was on a high level of alert (orange) against a terrorist attack, few developed evacuation plans or made arrangements for 'sheltering in place' as recommended by government officials.**

Approximately one in four (28 percent) Americans said they had given some thought to making an evacuation plan for themselves and their family. However, only 12 percent actually made a plan. **One of the reasons for this lack of planning may be that Americans are not sure what government officials mean when they talk about the need for evacuation plans.**

Fifty-five percent of Americans said they thought they knew what government officials meant when they talked about the need for Americans to have an evacuation plan in the event of a terrorist attack. Survey results and power point graphs are available here:

<http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/press/releases/blendon/biosecuritytopline.doc> (survey)

<http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/press/releases/blendon/biosecurity.ppt> (power point slides)

Source: [http://www.ascribe.org/cgi-bin/spew4th.pl?ascribeid=20030417\\_075616t](http://www.ascribe.org/cgi-bin/spew4th.pl?ascribeid=20030417_075616t)

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## **Information and Telecommunications Sector**

24. *April 18, CNET News.com* — **New attack may draw government intervention. Security experts warned Thursday that business executives need to take network protection more seriously before a major cyberattack results in government intervention.** Although the Bush administration has indicated it doesn't intend to dictate how companies should handle security, another Code Red or Nimda incident could change that stance, Roger Cressey, president of Good Harbor Consulting, said during a panel discussion this week at the RSA

Conference in San Francisco. **"If we do have a major cyberincident, there will be a critical mass of pressure for regulation, and (Congress) will take out a sledgehammer when a scalpel is needed,"** Cressey said. **Two months ago, the Bush administration released the National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace,** a document that mainly suggested solutions for protecting the Internet and critical infrastructure. **The only mandates in the document were directed at government agencies.** That's the correct approach, Lawrence Dietz of Symantec said at the panel. Instead, Dietz said, the government should wield its wallet and put restrictions on companies that want to do business with federal agencies.

Source: <http://zdnet.com.com/2100-1105-997404.html>

25. *April 18, Washington Post* — **President's top IT security adviser to resign. White House cybersecurity adviser Howard Schmidt will resign from his post at the end of the month. The former chief of security at Microsoft Corp., Schmidt became chair of the President's Critical Infrastructure Protection Board in February** following the departure of his predecessor, Richard Clarke. **Schmidt played a key role in drafting the administration's recently released cybersecurity strategy, and has spent the last two years building ties with the private sector in a joint effort to protect the nation's most important information systems from cyber-attack.** Schmidt's imminent departure would leave the administration without a high-ranking official solely in charge of cybersecurity. In January, the administration consolidated the work of five federal cybersecurity offices into the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). **Full responsibility for cybersecurity matters currently rests with Robert Liscouski, a former Coca-Cola executive who was recently named assistant secretary of infrastructure protection at the DHS.**

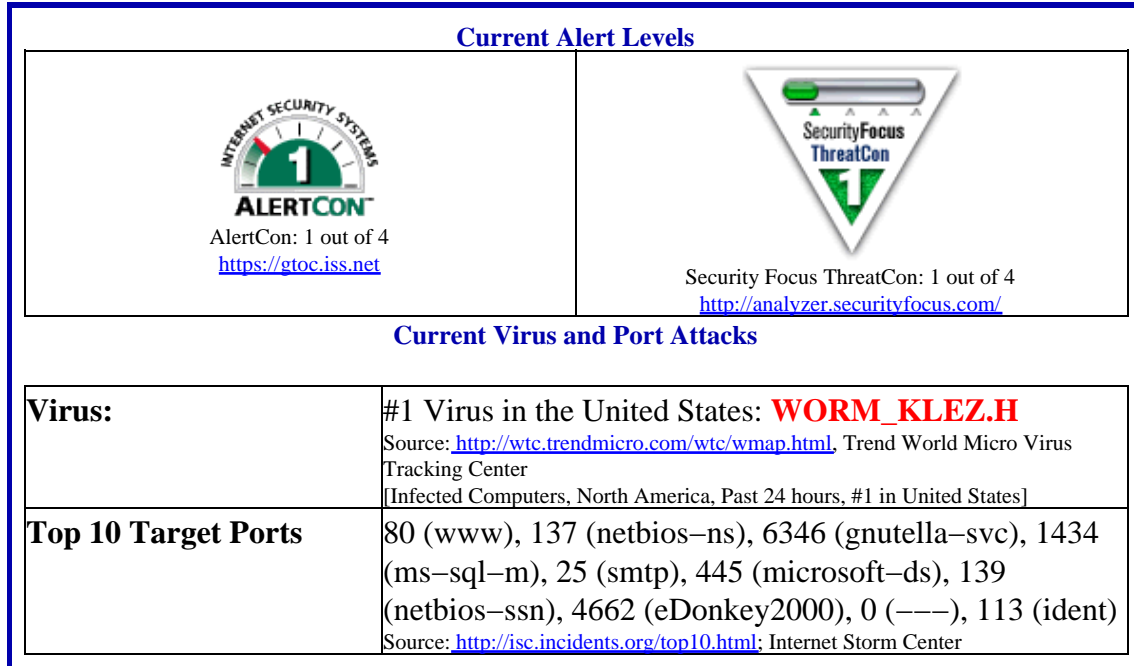
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A52162-2003Apr 18.html>

26. *April 17, Government Computer News* — **Data management system gets new analysis tool.** An automated data analysis tool will power a new FBI counterterrorism database, letting bureau analysts easily pore through more than 1 billion documents. **The tools, ClearTags and ClearResearch, will draw patterns from terrorism-related intelligence collected from several sources into a centralized data mart** that's part of the agency's modernized Trilogy network. The applications are intended to ease information sharing between the FBI and organizations at the CIA and Department of Homeland Security. **The tools will also give intelligence officers a quicker method for scanning various databases** at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Defense Department, Drug Enforcement Agency, State Department, and state and local agencies.

Source: [http://www.gcn.com/vol1\\_no1/daily-updates/21790-1.html](http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/21790-1.html)

27. *April 17, CNET News.com* — **Flaw bugs Office 2000 customers. A software slipup in Microsoft's latest update to Office 2000 results in the application repeatedly asking some customers to register the program.** The glitch apparently affects only Office 2000 users who don't have administrative rights on their computer, a Microsoft representative said Thursday. "They are experiencing unexpected registration prompts, but it doesn't interfere with product functionality," he said. Administrative rights allow a PC user to exercise total control over the computer's data. Giving such rights to nontechnical employees is considered by many security experts to be an unacceptable risk for companies. **Microsoft's representative didn't know if the cause of the problem had been determined but said that the software company is working on fixing the issue.**

## Internet Alert Dashboard



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## General Sector

28. *April 20, Washington Post* — **Lethal legacy: bioweapons for sale.** Daan Goosen's calling card to the FBI was a vial of bacteria he had freeze-dried and hidden inside a toothpaste tube for secret passage to the United States. **Goosen's extraordinary offer to the FBI, outlined in documents obtained by The Washington Post and interviews with key participants, promised scores of additional vials containing the bacteria that cause anthrax, plague, salmonella and botulism, as well as antidotes for many of the diseases. Several strains, like the bacterial hybrid in the toothpaste tube, had been genetically altered, a technique used by weapons scientists to make diseases harder to detect and defeat. All were to be delivered to the U.S. government for safekeeping and to help strengthen U.S. defenses against future terrorism attacks.** U.S. officials considered the offer but balked at the asking price — \$5 million and immigration permits for Goosen and up to 19 associates and family members to come to the United States. The deal collapsed in confusion last year after skeptical FBI agents turned the matter over to South African authorities, who twice investigated Goosen but never charged him. **Participants in the failed deal differ on what happened and why. But they agree that the bacterial strains remain in private hands in South Africa, where they have continued to attract attention from individuals interested in acquiring them.**  
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A58454-2003Apr 19.html>

29. *April 17, New York Times* — **Envisioning a safer city without turning it into slab city.** Since the war in Iraq began, ever more slab barricades and jumbo planter tubs have been set out on

sidewalks and curbs around sensitive landmarks, adding tangibly to the edginess of civic life and conveying the message – however inadvertently or inaccurately – that the streets are out of control, that the only safety lies behind thick masonry fortifications. **More than aesthetics are at stake. The closing and constricting of sidewalks, roadways and plazas diminishes the freedom that is being defended.** "By responding brutally to a brutal event, you exacerbate the sense of danger," said the architect Daniel Libeskind, whose challenges at the World Trade Center site will include the design of what will certainly be extraordinary security measures. "If you're sensitive," he said, "you take actions that are more subtle and probably more effective." **Even as the threat of car bombs and truck bombs reshapes the cityscape, planners and architects are trying to find alternatives to the long slabs called Jersey barriers (they were developed in the 1940's by the New Jersey State Highway Department) and planters that are often just barren dirt boxes.**

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/04/17/nyregion/17BLOC.html?ntem ail0>

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